

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 28, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered.

By means of the present amendment, claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice and its features included in independent claims 1, 10 and 12. Accordingly, no new issues requiring a new search have been introduced and entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8 and 10-15 remain in this application, where claims 5 and 9 had been canceled and claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice by the present amendment. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for not showing that the crevice is between an end closure device and the discharge vessel as recited in claims 1, 10 and 12. In response, claims 1, 10 and 12 have been amended in accordance

with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite. In response, claims 13-15 have been amended to remove the alleged informality noted in the Final Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 13-15 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claim 2 contains patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claims 1, 10 and 12 have been amended to delete features that are believed to be not necessary for patentability and to include the features of allowable claim 2 which has been canceled without prejudice.

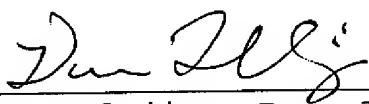
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10 and 12 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-4, 6-8, 11 and 13-15 should also be allowed at least

based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1, 10 and 12.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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